[1st February 1936

(*b*) if so, what the rules on the subject are and on what basis the duty is levied; and

(*c*) whether any duty is payable on homœopathic pills, which are simply brought in contact with medical tinctures and are then bottled up, which do not contain any alcohol in them and, if so, on what basis is duty levied on them?

A.—(*a*) Excise duty at the rate of Rs. 10 per proof gallon of the spirit contents is levied on homœopathic medicines containing spirit as in the case of other spirituous medicinal preparations imported from Bengal into this Presidency.

(*b*) The rules on the subject are contained in the notification of the Commissioner of Excise published at page 454 of Part II of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 3rd March 1931.

(*c*) Duty is leviable only on preparations containing spirits and the import of preparations which do not contain spirit is not under excise control. Homœopathic pills, being solids, have no spirit contents. No duty is therefore leviable on them.

Registration

Confirmation of the acting clerks of the Registration department, Guntur district.

* 675 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many acting clerks there are in the Registration department in Guntur district;

(*b*) what the religion, caste, or community, of each is;

(*c*) when were they entertained and what the total period of their service up to date is;

(*d*) how many vacancies arose in the clerical establishment of the Registration department in the Guntur district during the last 10 years;

(*e*) how many were filled in from the approved list of acting clerks and what their ranks were in the list on the dates of their confirmation and how many were transferred from other districts; and

(*f*) what the reasons are for overlooking the claims for confirmation of the acting clerks in Guntur district?

A.—The Government have not the information but have called for it.

Mr. G. R. Premayya:—" The answer shows that the information has not yet been received. It is about two months since the question was sent. Will the Hon. the Minister please communicate the information to the questioner without a further question being put? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" As soon as we get the information, it will be supplied to the House. It is not yet two months. The history of the department in Guntur district as wanted by the hon. Member in the question cannot be obtained in a short time."